104-10312-10133

New Orleans Resident Office

4	CLASS	WHERE LOCATED (10 CHARACTERS)	REFERRED BY (10 CHARACTERS)	DDO ?	DO FILE NUMBER (20 CHARACTERS)
	1	DCD			

5 SUBJECT (80 CHARACTERS)

Barton Dunamis Novel

6	TYPE OF REVIEW	DATE OF REVIEW	DAY	MONTH	YEA
	(1) A L				

7 Determinations:

- ✓ A. Release in full text (clipping)
- ____ B. Release in sanitized form
- ____ C. Deny in toto
- ____ D. Defer decision to (Specify in line 8)
- ____ H. Coordinate with (Specify in line 8)
- ____ E. Sustain initial denial in toto
- ____ F. Sustain initial release of of sanitized version
- ____ G. Release additional information

8	DEFER DECISION TO (10 CHARACTERS)	COORDINATE WITH (10 CHARACTERS)	NEW CLASS

SIGNATURE OF DO/IMS/FPLG REVIEWING OFFICER

9 EXEMPTIONS AND PROVISIONS CLAIMED (40 CHARACTERS)

E.O. 12065

FOIA: B1 B2 B3 B4 B5 B6 B7C

PA: B J1 J1B J1C K1

10 Exemptions and Provisions claimed to protect the following:

		FOIA	PA
____	1. Classification	(b) (1)	(k) (1)
____	2. Information from liaison with a Foreign Government	(b) (3)	(j) (1) (b) (c)
____	3. Information pertaining to a liaison relationship with a Foreign Government	(b) (3)	(j) (1) (b) (c)
____	4. Information which would/could identify the source	(b) (3)	(j) (1) (b)
____	5. Information pertaining to a source	(b) (3)	(j) (1) (b)
____	6. Information pertaining to intelligence methods	(b) (3)	(j) (1) (b)
____	7. Location of CIA overseas installation	(b) (3)	(j) (1) (b)
____	8. Location of unacknowledged domestic installation	(b) (3)	(j) (1) (b)
____	9. Name of CIA employee	(b) (3)	(j) (1) (b)
____	10. File number	(b) (3)	(j) (1) (b)
____	11. Pseudonym	(b) (3)	(j) (1) (b)
____	12. Cryptonym	(b) (3)	(j) (1) (b)
____	13. Internal organizational data	(b) (3)	(j) (1) (b)
____	14. Name of an FBI agent	(b) (7) (c)	(j) (1) (b)
____	15. FBI file number	(b) (2)	(j) (1) (b)
____	16. Privacy of other individual	(b) (6)	(b)
____	17. Does not pertain to request		
____	19. Other (Specify in line 11)		

JFK ACT 10-29-96 RELEASE

11 REMARKS (IF OTHER WAS CHECKED ABOVE) (40 CHARACTERS)

20 SEP 1982

Anne Redman / DCD

SIGNATURE/OFFICE OF DO COMPONENT REVIEWING OFFICER

12 REMARKS (160 CHARACTERS)

13 CIA HISTORICAL REVIEW PROGRAM
RELEASE IN FULL 1998

14

This Form is Unclassified Unless The Classification Is Chec and The Information below is completed.

☐ DECL ☐ REVW

ORG ____ EXT ____

DCN ____ DATE ____

Judge Won't Recuse Self from Novel Trial

By J. DOUGLAS MURPHY

Criminal District Court Judge Mathew S. Braniff Friday refused to recuse himself from the trial of Gordon Novel, the former Jim Garrison-Kennedy assassination probe figure who was charged May 27 with conspiring to set a fire on Mardi Gras in New Orleans' Central Business District.

Later, Judge Bernard J. Bagert also denied the motion to have Braniff put off the case, giving defense attorney John Francis Meyer until Monday to take writs to the state Supreme Court.

Novel was arrested by federal authorities in February on charges of possessing a "destructive device" in connection with an alleged plot to firebomb several buildings in the CBD during Mardi Gras. At the time, the defendant was developing plans for a high-rise complex for real estate man John A. Langford, allegedly to be built on the site of one of the firebombing targets.

Novel and Langford, 420 Bellaire Drive, have been charged in state court with conspiring to firebomb the Federation of Churches building, 330 St. Charles Ave., on Mardi Gras.

The case, allotted to Braniff's court, has been colored with political and spy-story overtones. Novel has claimed to have ties to the CIA, maintaining that enemies of the intelligence agency have made the case against him; his attorney, in the motion for recusal, Friday brought the Garrison investigation up again.

Meyer, in the written motion, asked that Judge Braniff recuse himself because the judge set a $50,000 bond for Novel during the Garrison probe, and, according to Meyer, stated from the bench that Novel "fled the jurisdiction (of the court) at the time of the... probe."

Meyer said it is a "well-known fact" that Novel was residing in Ohio at the time he was wanted to testify during the Garrison investigation, and further stated his client had been advised by a former chief aide to then-U.S. Atty. Gen. Robert Kennedy not to return to Louisiana because the Justice Department "could not protect his civil rights" here.

Meyer also claimed Novel has been working for a number of years to furnish information "which caused the reopening of the Kennedy assassination probe," that Novel's information is in direct conflict with the theories of Garrison (for whom Novel worked as chief of security) and that Novel had accused Garrison and the judges involved in the probe — including Braniff — of "political and criminal fraud."

The motion also maintained that a U.S. Senate select subcommittee, headed by Sen. Richard Schweiker of Pennsylvania, is awaiting the release of Novel to testify concerning KGB (Soviet intelligence) and Cuban agents "who furnished funds and misinformation" to Garrison, "and that the Hon. Mathew S. Braniff, as one of the judges involved in the former probe of the assassination of President Kennedy, may well be called upon to testify in said hearings and may be prejudiced against the defendant herein for that reason."

Schweiker's office, contacted late Friday, said the work of the subcommittee that looked into Kennedy's death has been over for some time, and its report released. There are no apparent plans to call either Novel or Braniff to testify about anything, a woman at the senator's office said.

Novel, of 1718 Lakeshore Drive, remains in Parish Prison awaiting trial.

10 July 1976

New Orleans Times-Picayune